

repeatedly has asserted that a collaborative relationship existed between Iraq and al Qaeda said he, Saddam Hussein, "was a patron of terrorism" and that he had "long-established ties with al Qaeda." This is the fourth or fifth time he has asserted this relationship, or members of the administration have. There is at least one thing we know about the Vice President: He is consistent, he is wrong, and he has been consistently wrong on this subject.

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

(Mr. DELAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, 139 years ago tomorrow, the sin of human bondage was ended in the United States. It has been said that the Civil War was the last battle of the American Revolution, and so it was. More than 600,000 Americans died in that conflict to save the Union, preserve the democratic ideals of the Founding, and make those ideals a reality for 4 million slaves.

If it is that the Civil War was indeed the last battle of the Revolution, then so it is that Gordon Granger fired its last shot. On his arrival in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, Granger, a major general in the United States Army, issued General Order No. 3 to the people of Texas informing them of the end of the war and the emancipation of the slaves. "This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former slaves and masters, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer," he said, and in an instant the world changed.

The United States, the first Nation in history "conceived in liberty and founded on the proposition that all men are created equal," was, for the first time, seeing to it that liberty and equality were extended to all its citizens.

Juneteenth, then, reminds us of the first principles of our Nation and of our Nation's special commission in the affairs of men. While Texas may be the only State in the Union that celebrates the anniversary of Juneteenth, the entire country, and indeed all of the civilized world, celebrates its legacy.

Man is born to be free. That is not an idea, it is the truth, absolute and without exception. But like all truths, freedom is almost never easy. It took wars to extricate ourselves from Britain, to free the slaves, to rid the world of fascism, and 40 years on the brink of nuclear holocaust to defeat Soviet communism.

So it takes war now to free the civilized world from the threat of international terror. The price of freedom is internal vigilance, and even a cursory survey of American history shows that price is a bargain.

DEEPLY PARTISAN BIAS ON SUPREME COURT

(Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am moved this week after the death of President Reagan to quote him, "There they go again."

The "they" in question are the three extremely conservative members of the U.S. Supreme Court who are, of course, entitled to their extreme conservatism, Justices Scalia, Thomas and Rehnquist; but, they are really not entitled to partisanship. Despite that, they have shown it.

The Colorado Supreme Court, acting in accordance with wrong, uncontroversial constitutional doctrine, interpreted the Colorado Constitution to mean that the Colorado legislature could not reopen redistricting for partisan advantage 2 years after they had originally had redistricting in the State. It is a very strongly held doctrine in America that a State Supreme Court is the final arbiter of its own State Constitution.

The Colorado Republicans, looking for the kind of partisan advantage that the Texas counties were able to get, appealed that decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. No one thought it was much of a serious appeal. Fortunately, six members of the Court held true to constitutional doctrine and voted not to take the case so it was not taken. But three members of that Court, defying long-standing constitutional tradition, voted to take the case. It was a case brought by Colorado Republicans to try to gain partisan political advantage; and surprise, surprise, they got the votes of Scalia, Rehnquist and Thomas.

Mr. Speaker, the worst of it is I am not sure they were being consciously partisan. I think the bias, the deeply partisan bias that has crept into those three is so strong that they, in fact, can do this without realizing it.

Once again we have seen from those three justices a hypocritical preference for partisan advantage over the kind of constitutional purity that they claim to follow but rarely do.

Mr. Speaker, I will include for the RECORD in the Extensions of Remarks an editorial from the New York Times on this subject.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the further consideration of H.R. 4567, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 675 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4567.

□ 0913

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4567) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes, with Mr. GILLMOR in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole House rose on the legislative day of Thursday, June 17, 2004, amendment No. 3 by the gentleman from New York (Mr. SWENEY) had been disposed of and the bill was open for amendment from page 22, line 22, through page 25, line 20.

Are there further amendments to this portion of the bill?

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas:

Page 22, line 25, after the dollar amount in each place, insert "(increased by \$20,000,000)".

Page 29, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$20,000,000)".

□ 0915

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I am proposing an opportunity for really securing the homeland and, that is, my amendment proposes to re-fund the Citizen Corps where H.R. 4568 purported to create a shortfall in the amount of almost \$19 million. The President of the United States proposed that that amount would be at least \$40 million. In order to account for this proposed shortfall, I have increased this appropriation by \$20 million.

The Citizen Corps program was launched by President George W. Bush during the 2002 State of the Union address as part of the USA Freedom Corps Initiative to engage Americans in volunteer service. In only 2 years, nearly 1,000 communities around the country encompassing 40 percent of the U.S. population established Citizen Corps Councils to help inform and train citizens in emergency preparedness and to coordinate and expand opportunities for citizen volunteers to participate in homeland security efforts and to make our communities safe. Fifty-two States and territories also formed state-level Citizen Corps Councils to support local efforts.

I would say, Mr. Chairman, that that is not enough. Supporting the Citizen